

## ANALYSIS OF PROPOSITION A

By Robert E. Shannon, City Attorney

Voter approval of Proposition A would amend Sections 213, 300, 301, 400, 510, 1702 and 1704 of the Long Beach City Charter, relating to certain powers of the Mayor and City Council, as are more particularly described below:

Presently, the Mayor is empowered to veto actions taken by the City Council. The City Council may then override the Mayor's veto with a vote of five of its members for ordinances and resolutions, six of its members for the City's budget ordinance, and two-thirds of its members present for minute orders. The proposed amendment would modify this procedure to strengthen the Mayor's veto authority by permitting the City Council to override the Mayor's veto with a vote of two-thirds of its members for ordinances and resolutions, and two-thirds of its members present for minute orders.

Presently, the Mayor is only empowered to veto the City Council's approval of the annual budget in its entirety. The proposed amendment would increase the time periods within which the Mayor and City Council may consider the budget, and would permit the Mayor to reduce or eliminate any specific expenditure in the budget approved by the City Council (a "line item veto"). The City Council may then override this veto and restore the expenditure with a vote of two-thirds of its members.

Presently, the City Council is empowered to appoint and to remove the City Manager with a vote of five of its members. The proposed amendment would permit the Mayor to veto this appointment or removal, subject to an override by the City Council by a vote of two-thirds of its members.

Presently, the City Manager is empowered to appoint the Assistant City Manager, subject to confirmation of the City Council. The proposed amendment would permit the Mayor to veto the City Council's approval of this appointment, subject to an override by the City Council by a vote of two-thirds of its members.

Presently, the City Council is empowered to appoint and to remove the City Clerk with a vote of five of its members. The proposed amendment would permit the Mayor to veto this appointment or removal, subject to an override by the City Council by a vote of two-thirds of its members.

Presently, the City Council is empowered to remove a member of a Charter-mandated commission only in the case of incompetence, malfeasance, misfeasance, neglect of duty or conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude. The proposed amendment would permit the Mayor to remove a member of a Charter-mandated commission at any time, upon the concurrence of two-thirds of the City Council.